



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/813,543	03/30/2004	F. Dan Gealy	MI22-3685	8087
21567	7590	10/08/2008	EXAMINER	
WELLS ST. JOHN P.S. 601 W. FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 1300 SPOKANE, WA 99201			CHEN, KEATH T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1792	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			10/08/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicants' after final argument, filed on 10/01/2008, made no amendment to the claims. The new claim listing will be entered.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicants' arguments filed 10/01/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

2. In regarding to 35 USC 103(a) rejection of claim 1 based on Bennett '139 and Shinriki '211, Applicants arguments are:

(a) The motivation to combine "for the purposes of avoiding contamination" is not clear, see the second paragraph of page 6.

This argument is found not persuasive. The examiner maintains "for the purpose of avoiding contamination" is a clear explanation of motivation to combine.

(b) Only once in the entire '211 reference cites contamination, see the second sentence of the third paragraph on page 6.

This argument is found not persuasive. The examiner maintains that citation once is enough to clearly teach a person of ordinary skill in the art about the issue (in this case, the contamination issue).

(c) The only citation in '211, col. 18, lines 48-52: "Contamination during the substrate processing process performed within the inner processing container 202 is avoided by keeping the sealed space at a higher vacuum through an exhaust opening (not shown) than the inside of the inner processing container 202" and that '211 does

not specifically teach the use of quartz within a chamber to avoid contamination, see the rest of the third paragraph of page 6.

This argument is found not persuasive. The examiner maintains that the inner processing container 202 is a space surrounded by quartz 202B and 201d. The contamination problem is solved by the presence of inner processing quartz container.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KEATH CHEN whose telephone number is (571)270-1870. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Cleveland can be reached on 571-272-1418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/K. C./  
Examiner, Art Unit 1792

/Michael Cleveland/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1792